

With Ms Christel Massaad

In this half term, our Year 7 students have been fully immersed in the world of English and writing. Specifically, they have been honing their skills in the art of using adjectives, adverbs, and figurative language to add depth and creativity to their compositions. They have also been exploring the impact of sentence length in effectively conveying their intentions. We are thrilled to present you with some top picks from their impressive collection of writings. These selected pieces showcase their remarkable growth and mastery in these areas. So, sit back, relax, and enjoy the captivating tales and vivid descriptions brought to life by our talented students!

## A DESCENT INTO DARKNESS

I am in an old, dark house. I walk through the house. I see a door. I open the door. I see stairs. I hear the door slamming shut behind me. I hurry back up the stairs. I try to open the door. It will not open. I'm trapped.

I was walking around the old, abandoned room, exploring its hidden secrets. The walls were covered in dust, spiderwebs hung from every corner of the room. I had been warned not to come here, but I couldn't help myself; this place held a strange fascination over me. Suddenly, my heart skipped a beat as something caught my eye: an old door at the far end of the hallway. A door that hadn't been there before!

At that moment, curiosity got the best of me, and I decided to investigate further. As soon as I opened the creaky, old door, however, all thoughts vanished from my mind like a cloud of smoke – for what lay beyond was nothing short of terrifying! The darkness had seemed to swallow everything up, like a ravenous beast, until there was no light left. All that remained were four walls closing down on me like a prison cell. My attempts at escaping failed miserably, and soon enough it became apparent that someone wanted me trapped inside forever...



Sedrah Samir

Y7 Emerald

## A TERRIFYING AWAKENING

I was woken up in the middle of the night by a deep thudding sound. I didn't think too much of it and went right back to sleep. After a short period of time, I heard muffled screams and the sound of footsteps... many footsteps. My head swam... What could possibly be going on? I jumped out of my bed and looked out of the porthole. Lo and behold, a gigantic white structure lay right ahead: an iceberg! Suddenly, it hit me. The ship was sinking! Not even bothering to put my shoes on, I frantically headed out of my room, looking for safety.

I sprinted towards the deck of the ship, desperately looking for something or someone to save me. Suddenly, from amidst the ruckus, came the voice of a man. "We have enough lifeboats for everyone! Please remain calm." Upon hearing these words, I felt quite relieved. Soon, we all started to get on the safety rafts. Shortly, we were far away from the doomed ship, watching it in disbelief as it was being devoured by the merciless waves. "We are alive," I chanted to myself repeatedly. "We are alive."

Nour Hamadeh  
Y7 Emerald

## THE HAUNTING SECRETS OF THE OLD DARK HOUSE

I am in an old, dark house. I walk through the house and see a door. I open the door and see stairs leading down into a deep, dark cellar. I start to walk down the stairs when I hear the door slam shut behind me. I hurry back up the stairs and try to open the door, but it will not open. I am trapped.

I try breaking down the door, but it won't budge. I keep hearing noises—screeching and the sound of drawers falling. After a while, I finally find the light switch and turn it on. However, at that moment, I realize something. While the lights were off, I was sure a drawer had fallen and that there would be marks around the room. To my great surprise, the room is immaculate. It feels as though I have entered a different reality.

I start looking around and approach a chest of drawers. I open one and start searching through old, dusty files. I find out that this house used to belong to a mafia boss, but it had been raided by the government. The mafia boss disrespected the rules of the person who sold the house to him by entering the cellar and was taken to a different reality. I am shocked and start crying, fearing this will happen to me.

Just as I stand there sobbing, I hear a deep voice saying, "You know you shouldn't be looking through that drawer." I look back in fear, trying to figure out who said it, but I can't see anyone. A couple of seconds later, a tall man emerges from the shadows. "What brings you here?" he asks. I explain that I was exploring the house when I came across this room, felt an urge to come down here, and then the door slammed shut.

The mafia boss quickly interrupts me. "Ah!h, so I assume, you've already met him."

"Met whom?" I quickly reply.

"If you want to find out, search that drawer," he replies dryly.

I quickly run over to the drawer and look for the information. The boss yells, "Not that one!!!!" I go over to the correct drawer and find a file—it's the house owner's diary. I open the book with anticipation. It reads, "Dear diary, I killed my mom and dad. Since then, many weird things have been happening..."

To be continued...or not?

Ayoub Rahuma

Y7 Ruby





In Year 9 English lessons, we have been studying mysteries. The texts we read both inform and intrigue the reader, using detailed facts and opinions to explore some fascinating questions. What caused the dinosaurs to become extinct? How were the stone carvings on Easter Island created? Does the Loch Ness Monster really exist? Omar, here, has explored the mystery behind EgyptAir 990.

## THE THEORIES BEHIND THE PERPLEXING MYSTERY OF EGYPTAIR 990

Disastrous EgyptAir flight crashed into the Atlantic killing all 217 passengers, a flight which can only be described as catastrophic. Being a disaster, it was obvious that conspiracy theorists would eat it up. The plane had various army officials on board which caused speculation as well as theories galore. Allegedly, this flight inspired the feared terrorist known as Osama bin Laden.

Disappearing in the early hours of the morning at approximately 1:52:05 am, instantly questions were asked of the pilot known as Mr. Gameel al Batouti, 56, as a initial start. Dumbfounded with this horror, Egyptian officials handed over the investigation to the US coast guard as a way to silence the theories ;however, it stoked the flame quite on the contrary for Egypt's wishes. Resulting in the US coast guard concluding this conspiracy as a terrorist attack which at that forsaken time were quite popular. These allegations resulted in formerly mentioned pilot, Gameel al Batouti, being thrown under the bus quite as the scape goat with little to no evidence purely based on speculation.

Shortly after, conspiracy theories started to conduct their own investigation centred around Mr Gameel Al Batooti. Evidently the theories against him had fired up after the relvelating discovery that his daughter was very sick with various questions circulating such as, could this have been an attempt to save her life? Was Gameel Al Batooti really behind this?

Egyptair Flight 990 seemed like any normal commercial flight ;however, 37 minutes after take off things took a turn for the worse . 33,000 feet and climbing, pilot Gameel Al Batooti headed into the toilet for a bathroom break ; little did he know these were his last moments on this planet. Disappearing off the radar at 1.49am, co-pilot desperately called for Gameel as the plane started to lose altitude rapidly. Attempting to save the plane from a nose dive into the Atlantic, they pulled at full force; however, after a few subtle moments the plane started nose diving again for the last time. Approximately 3 minutes later the plane plunged into the ocean killing all 217 passengers.

At first glance, these theories about the pilot could be plausible ;although, the investigation was fully based on conspiracy with no evidence just countless different theories with most only explaining half of the story. Due to the evidence, corrupting Egypt's image they set out to conduct their very own investigation.

Undoubtedly, this catastrophic event will be remembered for years to come. Having flown many flights , now in his late 60's Batouti was allegedly reprimanded in the United States for sexual misconduct which allowed the conspiracy around him to be the main theory amongst the investigation. Retired, however, military veteran and expert from the United States had this to say "In the army we are taught to see out for two key components which are reason and motive Batouti had both."

After seemingly confirming Batouti's involment in the flights, 16 years later it was revealed that the Boeing 767 had a major engine failure resulting in new aeroplanes for Egyptair.

This leaves us to question, was Al-Batouti just a scapegoat with perfect motives? Was this known at the time but seemingly covered up? At the time, Egypt would've had to pay compensation to the families if an engine failure was confirmed as the sole reason. Does this leave us to believe that the flight was covered up by Egyptair due to perfect motives? Was Batouti just a pawn in a game of 3-D chess? Despite all efforts to uncover what really happened on that fatal day, to this day it still remains a mystery just waiting to be uncovered.

